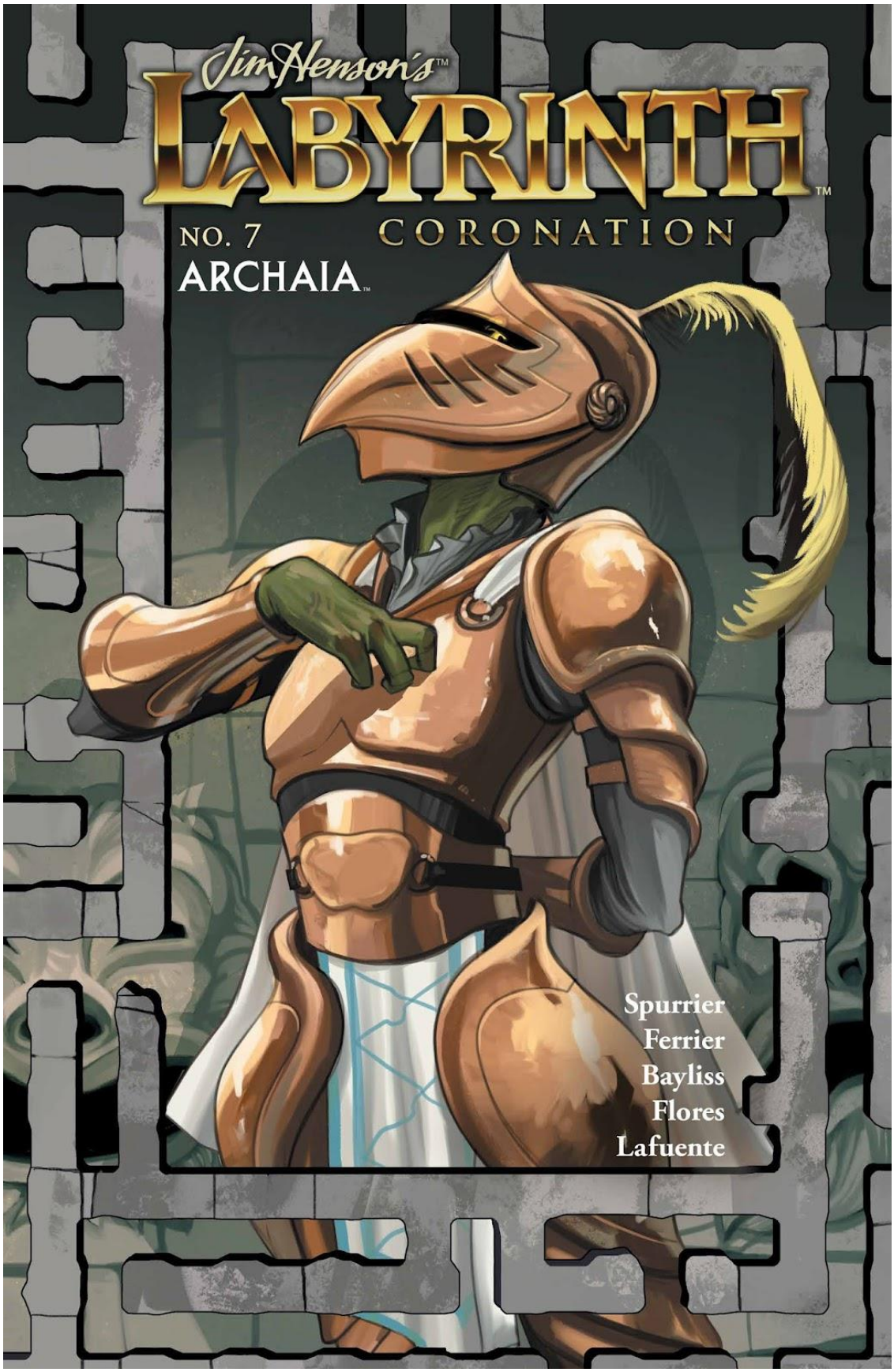
Jim Henson's™
LABYRINTH™
NO. 7 CORONATION
ARCHAIA™
Spurrier
Ferrier
Bayliss
Flores
Lafuente

Jim Henson's LABYRINTH CORONATION

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Special Thanks to Brian Henson, Lisa Henson, Jim Formanek, Nicole Goldman, Maryanne Pittman, Carla DellaVedova, Justin Hilden, Karen Falk, Blanca Lista, the entire Jim Henson Company team, Wendy Froud, Brian Froud, and Sierra Hahn.

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There. The dwarf has betrayed her-- as I commanded. Such a pity.
Such a lovely pity.
Servant! Where's that blasted baby got to? If you sneak off with him once more I shall--
--Wait.
Now there's an unfamiliar sound.
Do you know...I don't recall the last time the court of the goblin king was troubled by so strange a thing--
--as silence.
How did you calm him, slave? He was inconsolable...
JUST--JUST A MOMENT, SIRE! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
THE KID TOOK A--A LITTLE VISIT TO THE BOG OF ETERNAL STENCH, IF YOU TAKE MY MEANING.
TH-THERE, ALL CLEANED UP!
The castle air is no fouler than usual...
What are you up to, servant?

Well? Why isn't he *crying?*
What's the *secret?*
S-SECRET...? I-IT'S, *uh.* IT'S NO SECRET, SIRE. IT'S JUST. JUST, *uh...*
MAGIC.
Hmp. Well--I'm ***impressed.*** The child has wailed without ***reprieve*** for what seems an ***eternity.*** Let's--
N-NO, PLEASE! YOU'LL ***WAKE*** HIM!
WHY DON'T YOU, *uh*--MAYBE JUST ***TALK*** TO HIM, *huh?* KEEP HIM ***CALM.***
¿Sigh? I suppose you want me to finish the ***story,*** then? The woman with the unvanquished ***heart.***
W-***WELL,*** I MEAN, SINCE YOU ***MENTION*** IT...
Hm. Very well...
Her ***trials*** were far from over. The loss and gain of her ***comrades***--the ***perils*** of her path--such things could only ***embolden*** so strong a spirit.
She ***knew*** she must find her ***son...***

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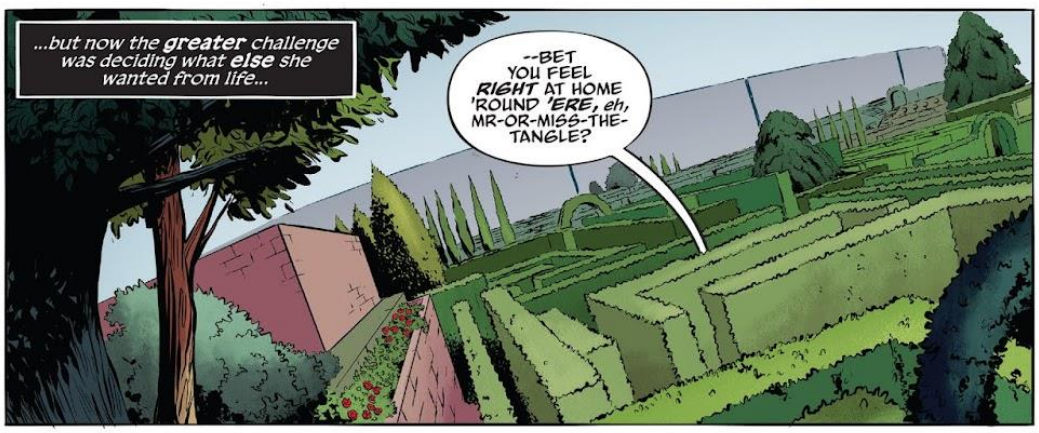

...but now the greater challenge was deciding what else she wanted from life...
--BET YOU FEEL RIGHT AT HOME 'ROUND 'ERE, eh, MR-OR-MISS-THE-TANGLE?

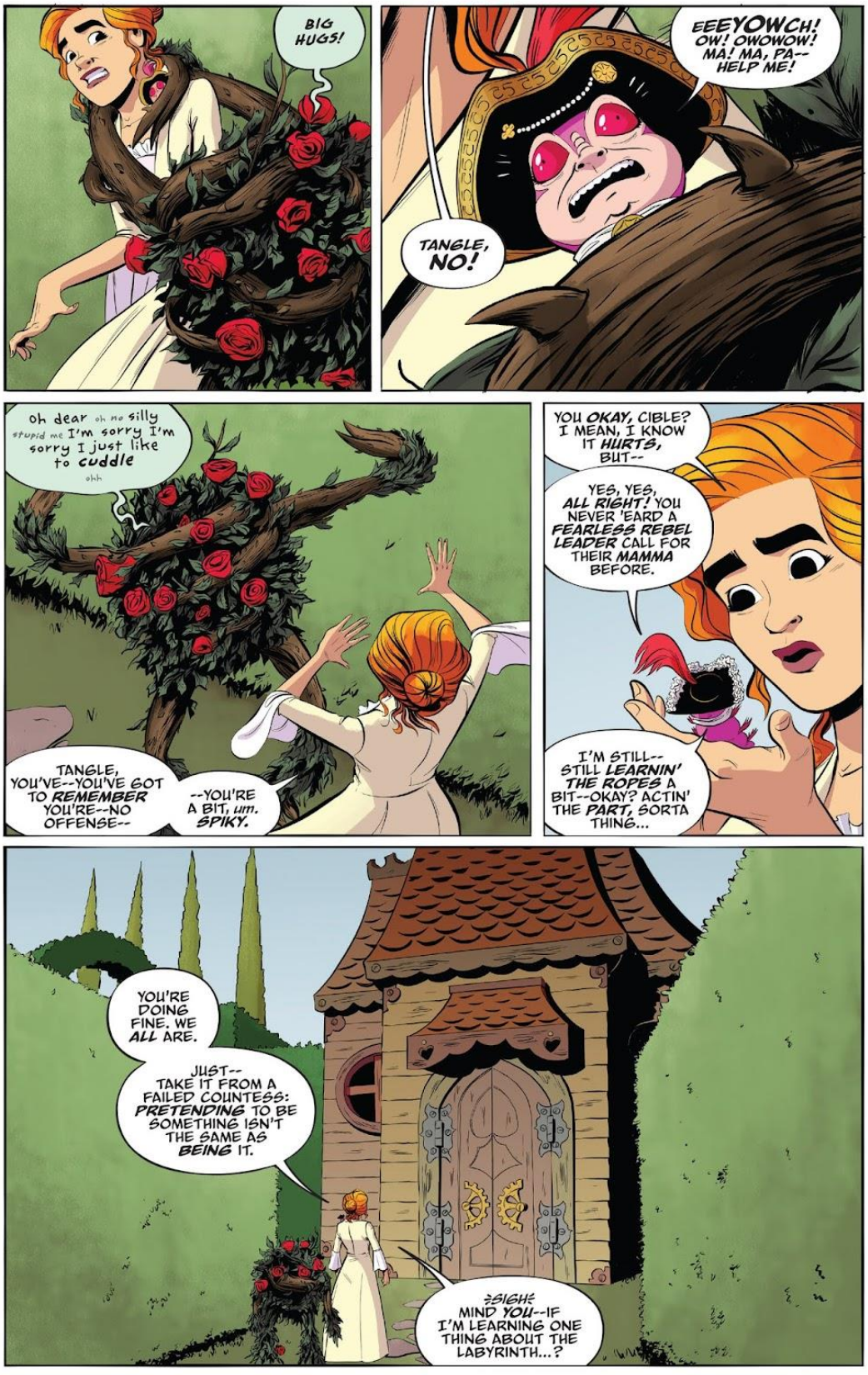
ALL SORTSA GREENERY AND SUCHFORTH. ALMOST COVERS THE INJUSTICE 'N TYRANNY WHAT LIES BEYOND!
oh oh I think she means me hello well, oh dear I'm not entirely think, tangle think sure where I am goodness gracious me or or or what "home" even is, so, um...

NO HOME, Y'SAY? COR, THAT SOUNDS LIBERATIN'.
HAVIN' A HOME MEANS BEIN' ONE 'O THE KINGS SUBJECTS, SEE, AND THAT'S AN 'ORRIBLE FATE! NOTHIN' BUT SUFFERIN'!

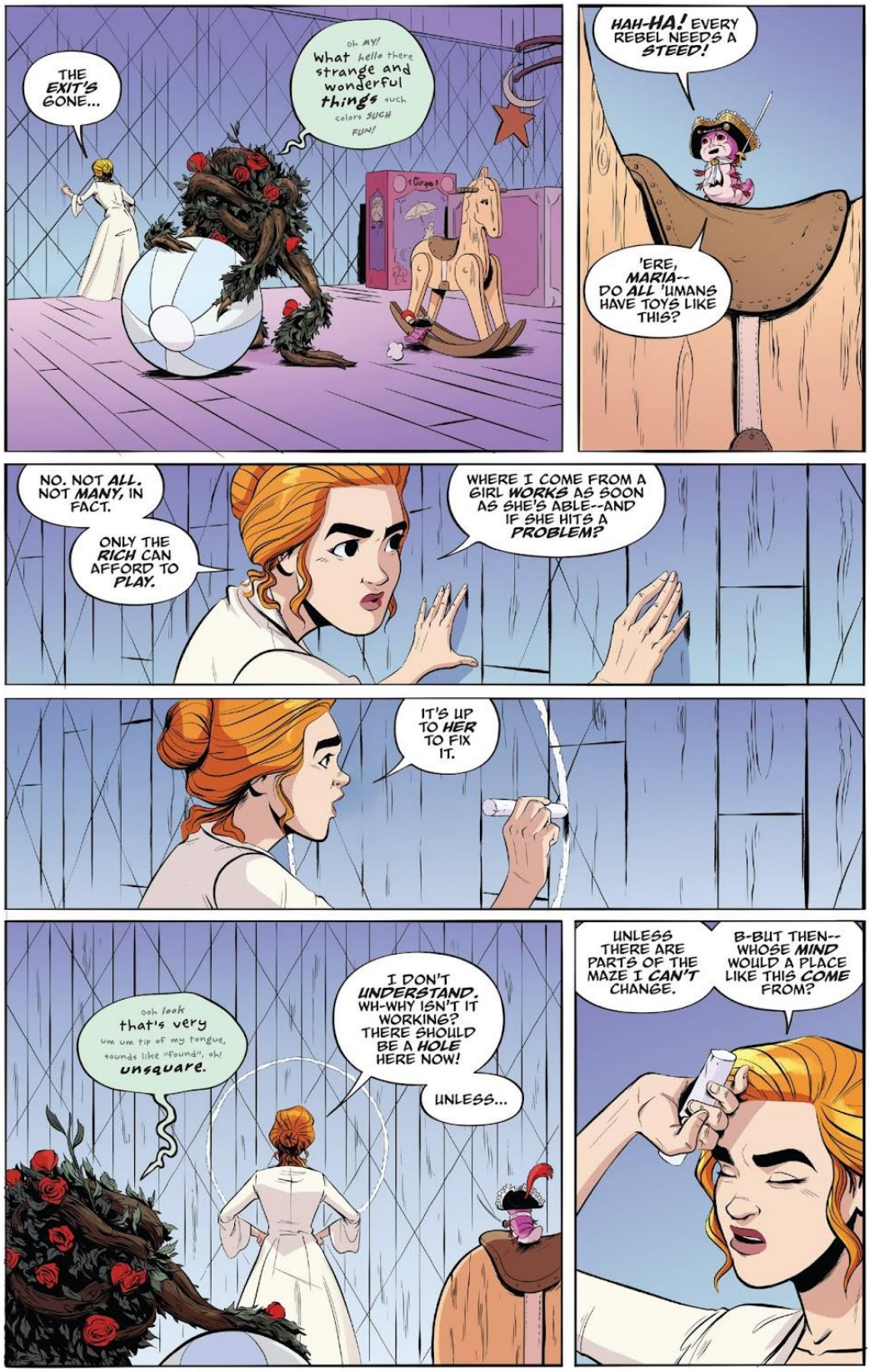
MERFOLK, KOBOLDS, WERERATS--EVEN THE BLEEDIN' SATYRS ARE IN A TIP!
RIGHT TO GATHER'S BEEN REVOKED... MISCHIEF AND PUBLIC ICKINESS BEEN MADE CAPITAL OFFENSES...
WHAT SORT OF LIFE'S A GOBLIN GOT IF HE CAN'T EVEN EAT ARMPIT FUNGUS WITHOUT PAYIN' A FILTH TAX? IT'S A CRYIN' SHAME!

ONLY SO MUCH THE REPRESSED MASSES CAN TAKE--THAT'S MY VIEW--AND WHEN IT COMES TO FIGHTIN' BACK, SIZE AND SHAPE DON'T MATTER A JOT!
SO WHADDAYA SAY, MR-OR-MISS-THE-TANGLE? YOU IN? YOU GOT REVOLUTION IN YOUR HEART?!

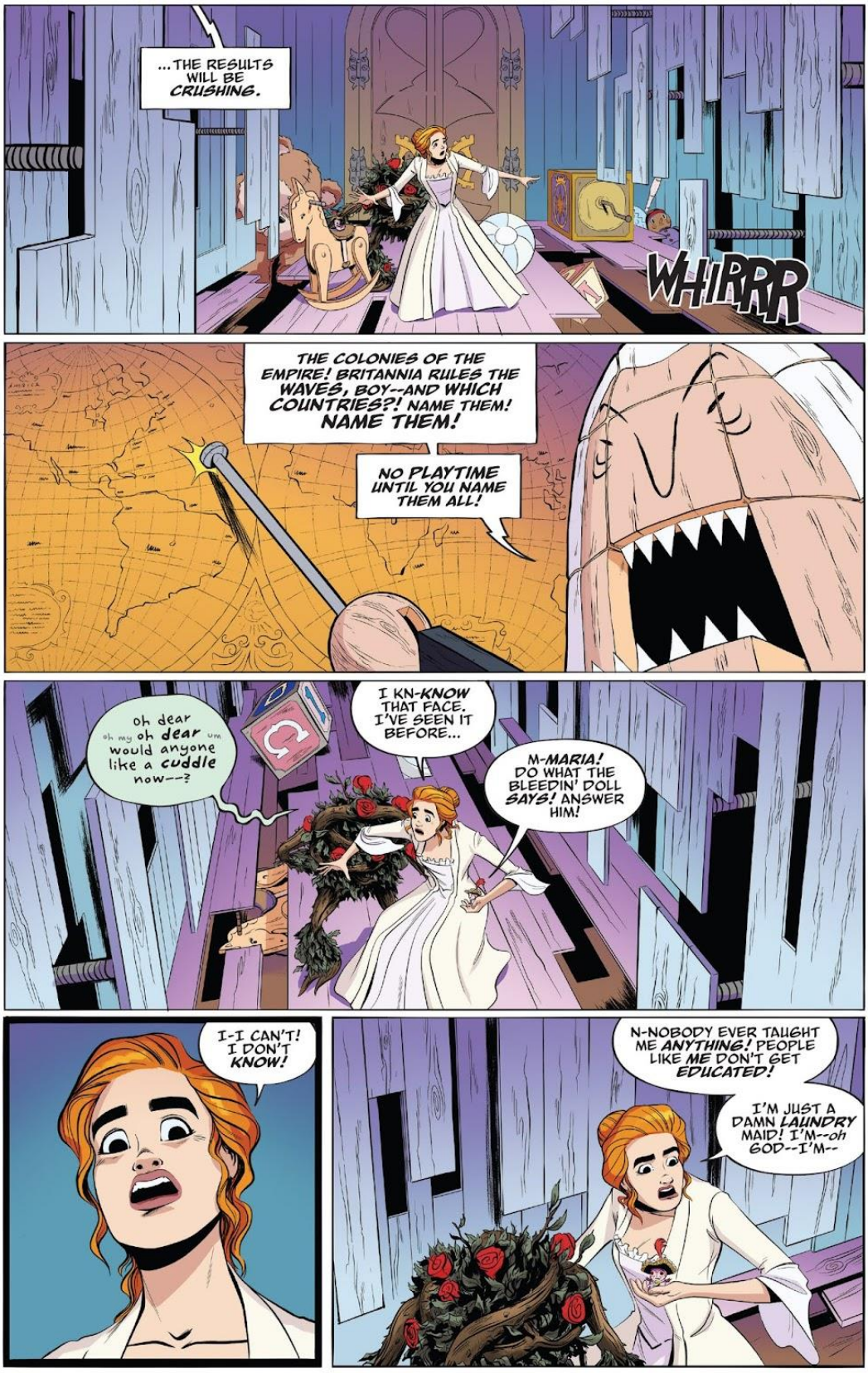
Um.
Well oh dear you see I have literally no idea what um what you're asking but BUT you seem HELLO dreadfully sincere so if I can help that's a big if but oh OOH perhaps this will help NOW now's the time ready
READY:


BIG HUGS!
EEEYOWCH! OW! OWOWOW! MA! MA, PA-- HELP ME!
TANGLE, NO!
oh dear oh no silly stupid me I'm sorry I'm sorry I just like to cuddle ohh
TANGLE, YOU'VE--YOU'VE GOT TO REMEMBER YOU'RE--NO OFFENSE--
--YOU'RE A BIT, um. SPIKY.
YOU OKAY, CIBLE? I MEAN, I KNOW IT HURTS, BUT--
YES, YES, ALL RIGHT! YOU NEVER 'EARD A FEARLESS REBEL LEADER CALL FOR THEIR MAMMA BEFORE.
I'M STILL-- STILL LEARNIN' THE ROPES A BIT--OKAY? ACTIN' THE PART, SORTA THING...
YOU'RE DOING FINE. WE ALL ARE.
JUST-- TAKE IT FROM A FAILED COUNTESS: PRETENDING TO BE SOMETHING ISN'T THE SAME AS BEING IT.
SIGH MIND YOU--IF I'M LEARNING ONE THING ABOUT THE LABYRINTH...?

IT'S THAT NOTHING'S REALLY WHAT IT'S PRETENDING TO BE.
what
sorry it's just me
I am terribly dense
but what IS all this?
THESE... THESE ARE TOYS.
I THINK THIS IS A NURSERY...
YOU DON'T KNOW?
I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE. IT'S LIKE--LIKE A PRIVATE LITTLE WORLD FOR CHILDREN.
}TT{ THE EXTRAVAGANCE OF THE BOURGEOISIE!
I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE EXTRAVAGANCE OF THE WALLS. LOOK--THEY'RE CHANGING...


THE EXIT'S GONE...
oh MY! What hello there strange and wonderful things such colors SUCH FUN!
HAH-HA! EVERY REBEL NEEDS A STEED!
'ERE, MARIA-- DO ALL 'UMANS HAVE TOYS LIKE THIS?
NO. NOT ALL. NOT MANY, IN FACT.
ONLY THE RICH CAN AFFORD TO PLAY.
WHERE I COME FROM A GIRL WORKS AS SOON AS SHE'S ABLE--AND IF SHE HITS A PROBLEM?
IT'S UP TO HER TO FIX IT.
ooh look that's very um um tip of my tongue, sounds like "found", oh! unsquare.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WH-WHY ISN'T IT WORKING? THERE SHOULD BE A HOLE HERE NOW!
UNLESS...
UNLESS THERE ARE PARTS OF THE MAZE I CAN'T CHANGE.
B-BUT THEN-- WHOSE MIND WOULD A PLACE LIKE THIS COME FROM?

WHIRRR
CH-CH-CHIK
TIK TIK TIK
HOH THERE! PAY ATTENTION, BOY! SMARTEN UP, I SAY!
YOUR EXAM IS ABOUT TO BEGIN--A TEST YOU CANNOT FAIL!
FOR IF YOU DO...


...THE RESULTS WILL BE CRUSHING.
WHIRRR
THE COLONIES OF THE EMPIRE! BRITANNIA RULES THE WAVES, BOY--AND WHICH COUNTRIES?! NAME THEM! NAME THEM!
NO PLAYTIME UNTIL YOU NAME THEM ALL!
oh dear oh my oh dear um would anyone like a cuddle now--?
I KN-KNOW THAT FACE. I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE...
M-MARIA! DO WHAT THE BLEEDIN' DOLL SAYS! ANSWER HIM!
I-I CAN'T! I DON'T KNOW!
N-NOBODY EVER TAUGHT ME ANYTHING! PEOPLE LIKE ME DON'T GET EDUCATED!
I'M JUST A DAMN LAUNDRY MAID! I'M--oh GOD--I'M--

"--I'M NOBODY!"
NAME THE COLONIES, BOY!
PAPA... I'M SORRY... I CAN'T REMEMBER.
HMHMHM. POOR ALBERT. SUCH FEAR. SUCH EXPECTATION...
YOU TRULY ARE A FOUNT OF EXPERIENCE, AREN'T YOU?
HM. MINE, NOW.
MINE TO REWORK. MINE TO SET SPINNING IN THE GREAT ENGINES OF THE LABYRINTH, IN PURSUIT OF THE FINEST EXPERIENCE OF ALL:

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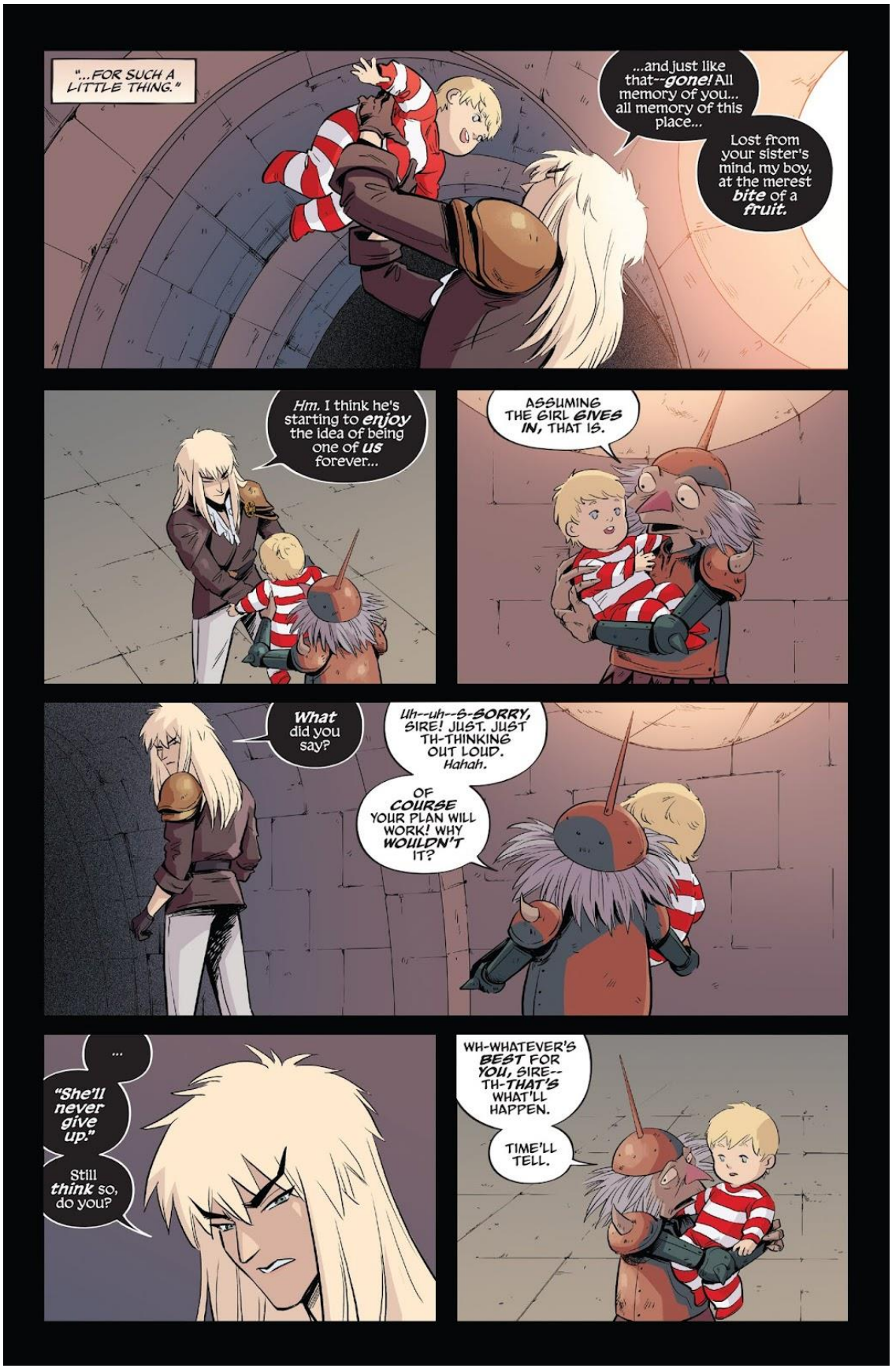
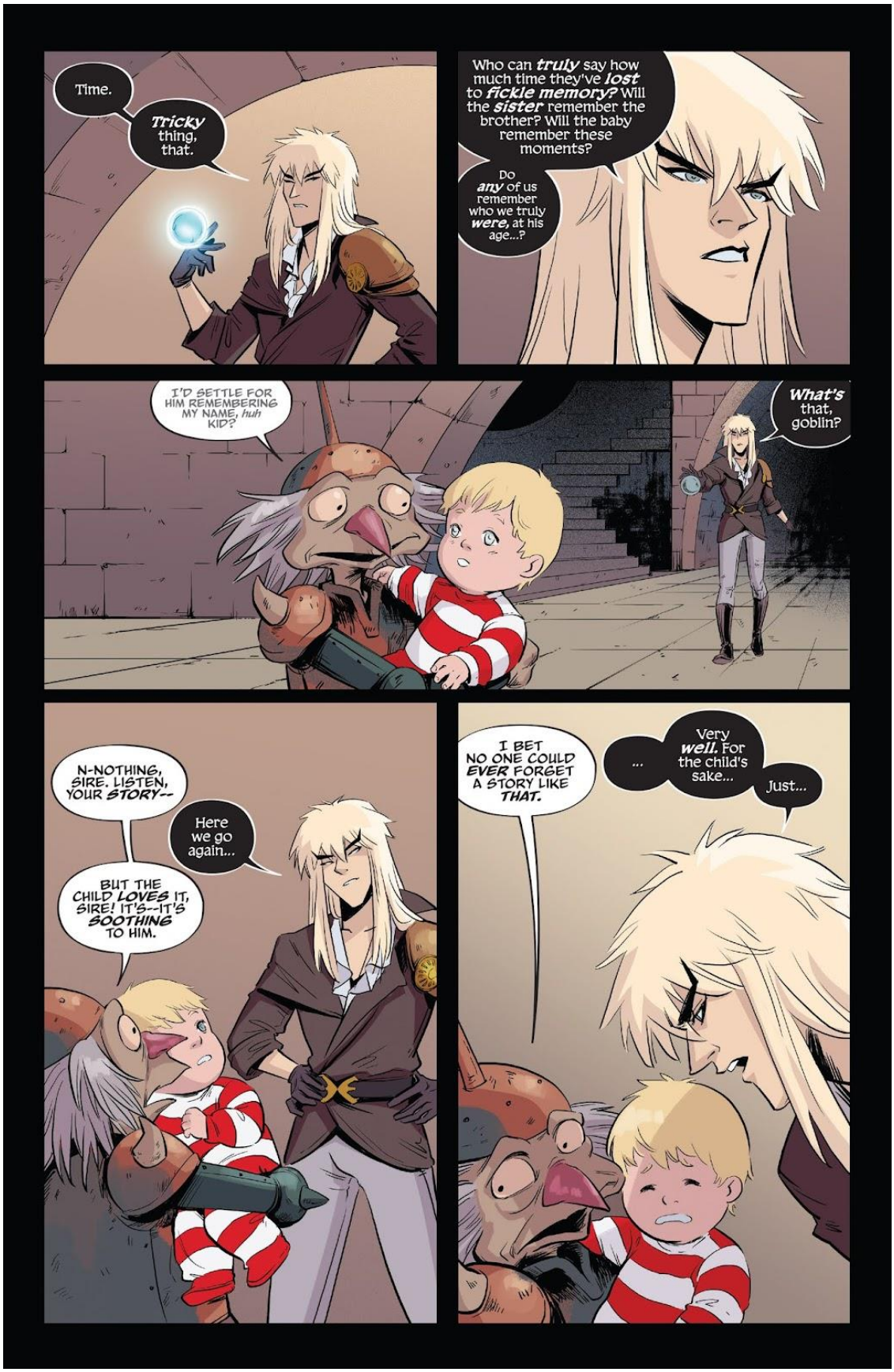
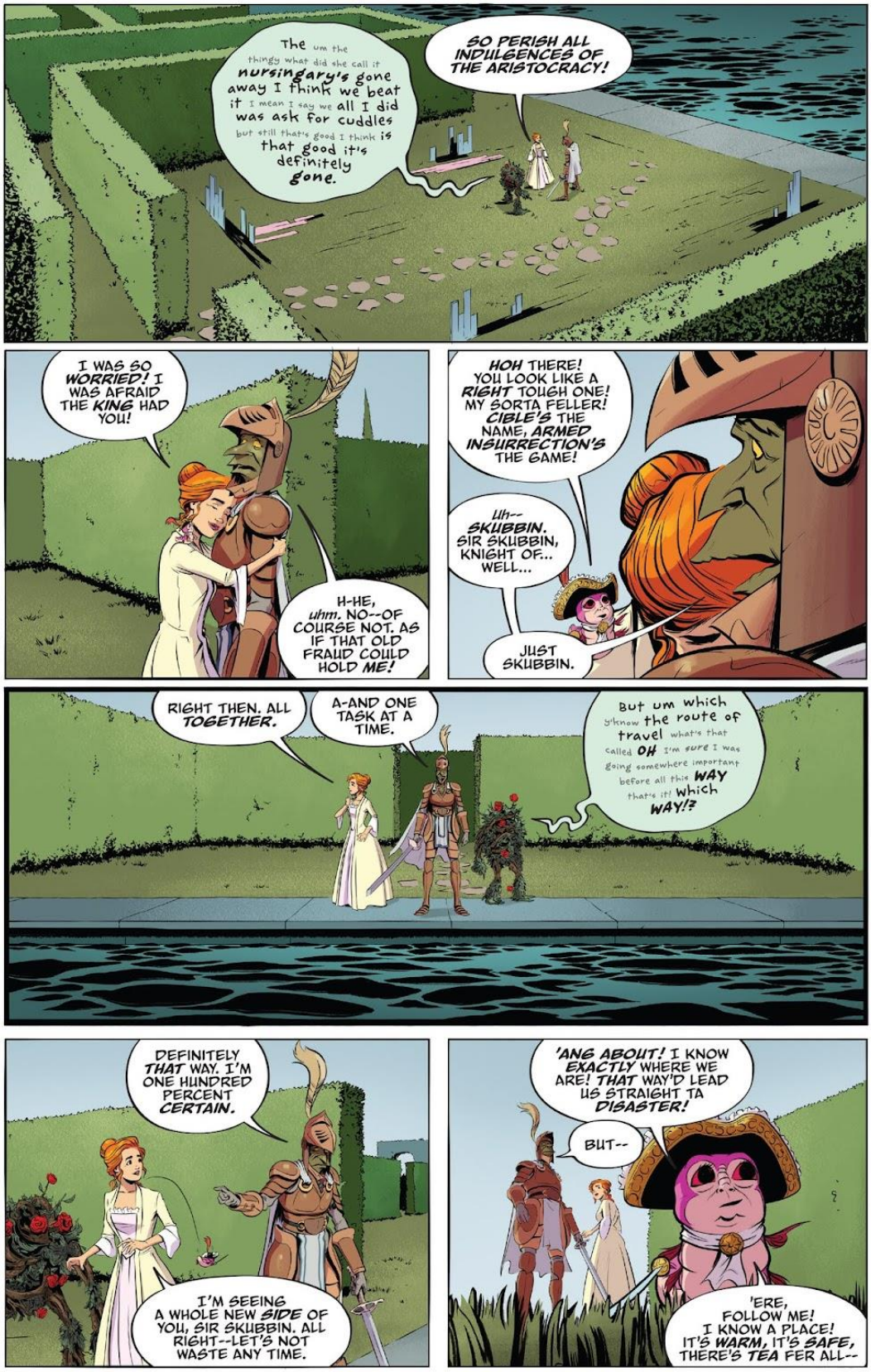

"...FOR SUCH A LITTLE THING."
...and just like that--*gone!* All memory of you... all memory of this place...
Lost from your sister's mind, my boy, at the merest *bite* of a *fruit.*
Hm. I think he's starting to *enjoy* the idea of being one of *us* forever...
ASSUMING THE GIRL *GIVES IN,* THAT IS.
What did you say?
Uh--uh--S-SORRY, SIRE! JUST. JUST TH-THINKING OUT LOUD. *Hahah.*
OF *COURSE* YOUR PLAN WILL WORK! WHY *WOULDN'T* IT?
...
"She'll never give up."
Still *think* so, do you?
WH-WHATEVER'S *BEST* FOR *YOU,* SIRE-- TH-*THAT'S* WHAT'LL HAPPEN.
TIME'LL TELL.

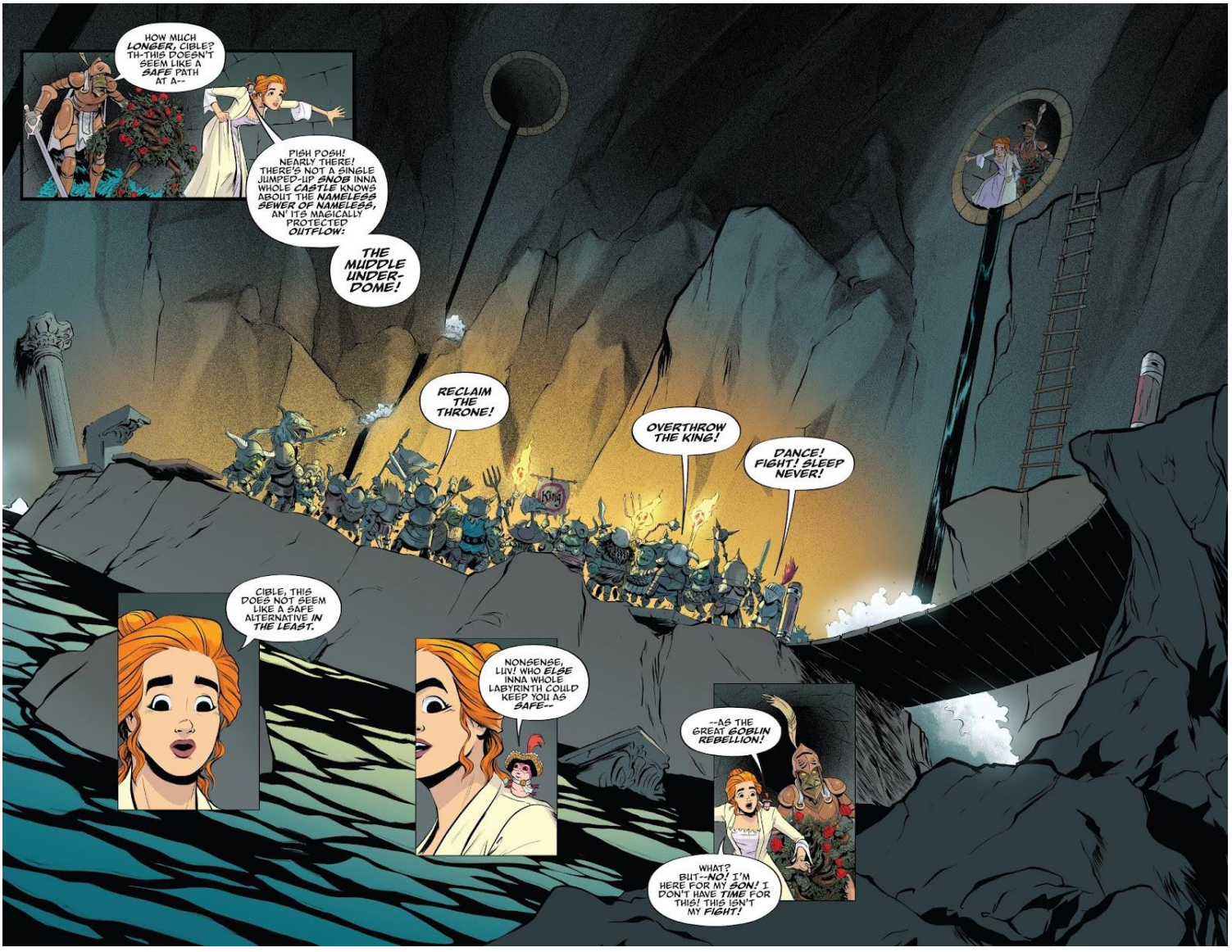

Time.
Tricky thing, that.
Who can truly say how much time they've lost to fickle memory? Will the sister remember the brother? Will the baby remember these moments?
Do any of us remember who we truly were, at his age...?
I'D SETTLE FOR HIM REMEMBERING MY NAME, huh KID?
What's that, goblin?
N-NOTHING, SIRE. LISTEN, YOUR STORY--
Here we go again...
BUT THE CHILD LOVES IT, SIRE! IT'S--IT'S SOOTHING TO HIM.
I BET NO ONE COULD EVER FORGET A STORY LIKE THAT.
...
Very well. For the child's sake...
Just...

...don't expect a cheerful nursery rhyme.
ANSWER! ANSWER! ANSWER!
oh dear this is bad oh my I think BIG HUGS? someone? Anyone?
COME ON! MAGIC CHALK--BE--BE MORE MAGIC!
'ERE-- WHAT'S THAT THING?
♫TINK-A... TINK...A... TIDDLE..♫
=hnnf=
IT'S... uh...
TINK-T-TINK-A-♫DIDDLE-LINK♫

SSSPPRROOINGG
YA-HA!
SKLIBBIN!
GASP! VIVA LA RÉSISTANCE!
THE EMPIRE OF THE MIND ECLIPSES ALL COUNTRIES! EVERY HUMAN HEART HAS ITS OWN MAZE TO CONQUER!
THE ONLY COLONY THAT MATTERS IS THE LABYRINTH!
WOM WOM WOM WOM WOM
SKLIBBIN-- YOU SAVED US. YOU'RE A HERO!
OH DEAR. I REALLY AM, AREN'T I?
IT'S AWFUL.


The um the thingy what did she call it nursingary's gone away I think we beat it I mean I say we all I did was ask for cuddles but still that's good I think is that good it's definitely gone.
SO PERISH ALL INDULGENCES OF THE ARISTOCRACY!
I WAS SO WORRIED! I WAS AFRAID THE KING HAD YOU!
H-HE, uhm. NO--OF COURSE NOT. AS IF THAT OLD FRAUD COULD HOLD ME!
HOH THERE! YOU LOOK LIKE A RIGHT TOUGH ONE! MY SORTA FELLER! CIBLE'S THE NAME, ARMED INSURRECTION'S THE GAME!
Uh-- SKUBBIN. SIR SKUBBIN, KNIGHT OF... WELL...
JUST SKUBBIN.
RIGHT THEN. ALL TOGETHER.
A-AND ONE TASK AT A TIME.
But um which y'know the route of travel what's that called OH I'm sure I was going somewhere important before all this WAY that's it! Which WAY!?
DEFINITELY THAT WAY. I'M ONE HUNDRED PERCENT CERTAIN.
I'M SEEING A WHOLE NEW SIDE OF YOU, SIR SKUBBIN. ALL RIGHT--LET'S NOT WASTE ANY TIME.
'ANG ABOUT! I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE WE ARE! THAT WAY'D LEAD US STRAIGHT TA DISASTER!
BUT--
'ERE, FOLLOW ME! I KNOW A PLACE! IT'S WARM, IT'S SAFE, THERE'S TEA FER ALL--

"--AND IT'S HIDDEN FROM THE KING'S EYE..."
HRR.
AND SO SKUBBIN FAILS ME YET AGAIN.
PLEASSE, MAJESSTY...
LET ME KILL HIM...?
NO, SEPTIMUS-- NOT YET. IN HIS FOOLISH WAY MY SON HAS SERVED ME WELL...
THE TRUTH IS, I BUILT MY PLANS AROUND HIS FAILURE.
ALTHOUGH... THE WENCH IS RESOURCEFUL, IT'S TRUE. ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL...
HM. IF THE MIND OF HER HUSBAND CANNOT ENTRAP HER--
--PERHAPS HIS TOUCH SHALL.


HOW MUCH LONGER, CIBLE? TH-THIS DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A SAFE PATH AT A--
PISH POSH! NEARLY THERE! THERE'S NOT A SINGLE JUMPED-UP SNOB INNA WHOLE CASTLE KNOWS ABOUT THE NAMELESS SEWER OF NAMELESS, AN' ITS MAGICALLY PROTECTED OUTFLOW:
THE MUDDLE UNDER-DOME!
RECLAIM THE THRONE!
King
OVERTHROW THE KING!
DANCE! FIGHT! SLEEP NEVER!
CIBLE, THIS DOES NOT SEEM LIKE A SAFE ALTERNATIVE IN THE LEAST.
NONSENSE, LUV! WHO ELSE INNA WHOLE LABYRINTH COULD KEEP YOU AS SAFE--
--AS THE GREAT GOBLIN REBELLION!
WHAT? BUT--NO! I'M HERE FOR MY SON! I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS! THIS ISN'T MY FIGHT!

AND--CIBLE! JUST LOOK AT THOSE THUGS! THIS ISN'T YOUR FIGHT EITHER!
NOT MY FIGHT? YOU'RE 'AVIN' A LAUGH! DIDN'T YOU WONDER WHAT "CIBLE'S" SHORT FOR?
BEIN' HERE'S MY BLOOMIN' DESTINY, LUV--
--OR MY NAME'S NOT BUNDERGHAST THE INVINCIBLE!
To be continued...